

NEGRO NATIONAL LEAGUE

New York, N. Y.

March 12th, 1946

Minutes of special meeting

A special meeting was called at the York Hotel on Tuesday March 12th, 1946 at 1:45 P. M. It was held, however, next door to the hotel, at the Elk's home.

Those present were:

Homestead Grays, S. H. Posey and Rufus Jackson
Phila Stars Edward B. Olden and Edward Gottlieb
Baltimore Elites, Vernon Green
New York Cubans, Alex Pompey
New York Black Yankees, James Semler, W. A. Leuschner and
Curtis A. Leak, Acting secretary.
Frank Forbes, promoter of the NNL.

Absent:

Thos. T. Wilson, president
Cum Posey, secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting on February 20th and 21st were read and approved.

Vernon Green pointed out the resolution that bans players for five years who jump to Mexico or to outlaw baseball and reported that Thomas Moss Glover had left his team, the Baltimore Elites, after August 1st 1945 to go to Mexico and was therefore subject of the ban. The secretary was requested to notify the NAL president of this action.

Effa Manley and Edward Gottlieb were appointed as constitution committee to study the constitution of the National League and to report on how it could be applicable to the NNL.

A telegram was read from Allen Johnson authorizing Gus Greenlee to be his proxy.

As the result of an inquiry by Alex Pompey as to what is to be done about surplus players Edward Gottlieb moved that there be a limit of twenty-five players to each club until June 15th and after that

time no club is to have more than twenty players. Furthermore, that there be no trading or selling of players after August 1st until the end of the season. It was seconded by A. Hanley and carried.

As an incentive for the players to play better baseball it was unanimously decided to give the club finishing second \$1,000 and the third place club \$500 and the money to be distributed amongst the players.

The standings of the clubs are to be ascertained in the following manner: If a team wins both halves it would automatically win 1st place. Second and third places would be determined by the total amount of games won and lost by the clubs for both halves. In the event two different clubs were to win each half the loser of the play-offs would be the second place club and the third place club as previously stated. The motion was made by Rufus Jackson and seconded by E. Bolden and carried.

On a motion by James Senler and seconded by Vernon Green and ^{that} carried the East-West game be played in some eastern city of the NHL ^{Chicago} the second or third night after the game has been played in Chicago.

Instruction were given to club owners and their representatives not to give the umpires any money, in order to avoid any conflicts. If there are two league umpires at a game; the base umpires fee is to be given to the leagues treasury.

Mr. Winfield Welch was permitted into the meeting and he briefly requested that the NHL clubs play him and not to take his players as he was planning to operate an independent baseball club to be known as the Cincinnati team. After a lengthy discussion he was informed that the league would not vote on it until after he had settled his affairs with the Western League.

Mr. Gus Greenlee was allowed in the meeting and he made a request for two franchises or none at all. One in Boston or Brooklyn for

Allen Johnson and the other Montreal for himself.

Rufus Jackson moved that due to the fact that applications for new franchises appear to be of no benefit to the league members that they be refused at this time. However, that if in the ^event Gus Greenlea obtained a city that would be beneficial to the league members he would be given first preference for a new franchise. It was seconded by A. Manley and carried unanimously.

1,500 contracts were ordered printed for \$40.00.

The league hired two umpires at \$300 a month and transportation and extra pay for exhibition games. They are to be fired upon three just complaints from different clubs. The umpires are Fred McGrary and John Craig, who were selected from a dozen applicants.

Status quo on western clubs coming east.

Recessed at 7:15 P. M. Reconvened at 9:00 P. M.

Art Carter was accepted as public relations man at \$1000 for the season. Commencing on April 15th to September 30th. He is to pay all expenses that might be incurred in doing his work from the amount stated. His duties are to make necessary contacts to solicit good will from other newspapers for the league. Compile the club standings weekly and release them with publicity about the league.

The league is to award prizes to the leading hitter, pitcher and home run slugger.

The schedule was completed and approved. Each club will take a \$10.00 ad from Ben Taylor. Rufus Jackson is to furnish proof that a certain Puerto Rican player agreed to play with the Grays and that the player now in question is being held by the Baltimore Elites.

A. Manley demanded his territory rights at East Orange and it was conceded that the clubs would not play there because of the low admission rate.

Alex Pompey presided throughout the entire meeting, which was adjourned at 1:45 A. M. Secretary _____